

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01234 202327Z

17

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10

L-03 FRB-01 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 AGR-10 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-01 FMC-02 DOTE-00 FAA-00 /112 W

----- 054238

R 201600Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8249

UNCLAS GENEVA 1234

DEPT PASS ARMSTRONG - MARAD, ELY - DOT, SMITH - FMC,
DWYER - COMMERCE

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, EWWT

SUBJECT: 3RD UNCTAD IPG ON INTERMODAL TRANSPORT: SUMMARY OF FIRST
WEEK

1. SUMMARY. THERE HAVE BEEN FEW SURPRISES DURING FIRST
WEEK OF IPG, WITH WEEK LARGELY TAKEN UP WITH ORGANIZATIONAL
AND PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS AND GROUP COORDINATION, ESPECIALLY
IN GROUP OF 77. END SUMMARY.

2. IN ABSENCE OF PREVIOUS US GROUP COORDINATION, MRS
BIRGITTA BLOM (SWEDEN) SELECTED GROUP B COORDINATOR.
NO OTHER CANDIDATES CAME FORWARD. MR REINHARD GANTER
(FRG) SELECTED AS B VICE-COORDINATOR; MR RICK
SHREVES (US) IS FRIEND OF RAPPORTEUR FROM GROUP B.
GROUP OF 77 BEING COORDINATED BY MR HELCIO PIRES (BRAZIL);
GROUP D BEING COORDINATED BY MR MARTENI (HUNGARY).

3. B MEMBERS GENERALLY INDICATED WISH THAT SECOND IPG
GET DOWN TO DETAILED WORK IN FORM OF STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES
RELATING TO MT ISSUES, IF NOT ACTUAL DRAFTING. US
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GENEVA 01234 202327Z

CONCURRED IN DESIRABILITY OF MAKING FULL USE OF AVAILABLE

MEETING AND TRANSLATION RESOURCES AT IPG, AND NOTED US APPREHENSION ABOUT UTILITY OF IPG EFFORT IF PROGRESS DID NOT ENSUE.

4. PROCEDURE - AT WEDNESDAY PLENARY, IPG AGREED TO ESTABLISH 24 NATION OPEN-ENDED WORKING BODY AS MECHANISM FOR DETAILED DISCUSSIONS. WORKING BODY'S TERMS OF REFERENCE CALL ON IT TO QUOTE IDENTIFY ISSUES SUITABLE TO BE DEALT WITH IN A CONVENTION AND TO RECOMMEND SOLUTIONS TO THESE ISSUES UNQUOTE TO THE PLENARY. IPG AGREED THAT WORKING BODY WOULD INITIALLY TAKE UP DOCUMENTATION QUESTIONS (DISCUSSED IN DETAIL AT SECOND IPG), AND THEN MOVE TO CONSIDER SCOPE OF APPLICATION AND CUSTOMS MATTERS AFTER THESE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BY PLENARY DURING FIRST WEEK. OTHER ISSUES, INCLUDING LIABILITY AND INSURANCE, AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACTS WOULD BE REFERRED TO WORKING BODY DURING SECOND WEEK, AFTER PLENARY DISCUSSION.

5. SOME FURTHER PLENARY DISCUSSION OF DOCUMENTATION QUESTIONS TOOK PLACE WEDNESDAY, WITH GROUP OF 77 PROPOSING 22 (REPEAT 22) ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN MT DOCUMENT. HOWEVER, AS OF FRIDAY MORNING, GROUP OF 77 HAD NOT REACHED POSITIONS ON SCOPE OF APPLICATION, CUSTOMS, OR OTHER QUESTIONS REQUIRING PLENARY DISCUSSION. ACCORDINGLY, WORKING BODY NOT YET ESTABLISHED, AND ITS ORGANIZATION NOT LIKELY UNTIL EARLY IN SECOND WEEK OF IPG. US, UK CANADA, AUSTRALIA, FRG, JAPAN, SWEDEN AND TURKEY WILL REPRESENT GROUP B ON WORKING BODY; GROUP OF 77 AND GROUP D REPS NOT YET KNOWN.

6. GROUP B POSITIONS - GENERALLY, GROUP B POSITIONS REMAIN CLOSE TOGETHER ON ISSUES CONSIDERED THUS FAR, BUT LIABILITY AND INSURANCE, TREATMENT OF AVIATION NOT YET DISCUSSED IN DETAIL. GROUP B CONTINUES TO BE GENERALLY FIRM IN LIMITING POSSIBLE CONVENTION TO PRIVATE LAW AND IN OPPOSING INCLUSION OF CUSTOMS OR LICENSING PROVISIONS, ALTHOUGH SOME B'S MAY BE READY TO FALL BACK TO LIMITED CUSTOMS AND LICENSING PROVISIONS. JAPANESE VERY FIRM ON LIMITING CONVENTION TO PRIVATE LAW. IN INTERESTING DEVELOPMENT, CANADA, FRANCE, UK, FRG, AND JAPAN HAVE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GENEVA 01234 202327Z

EXPRESSED GENERAL SUPPORT FOR INCLUDING AVIATION, BUT ISSUE NOT YET DISCUSSED IN DETAIL. THERE IS ALSO POTENTIAL B GROUP DIVISION ON SCOPE OF APPLICATION, SINCE AUSTRALIANS AND SOME OTHERS APPEAR TO WANT TO MAKE ANY CONVENTION MANDATORY FOR ALL INTERMODAL TRANSPORT, AND WOULD BAN MT CONTRACTS MADE ON BASIS OF INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RULES OR OTHERWISE. THIS ISSUE NOT YET ADDRESSED IN DETAIL. US POSITION HAS BEEN MADE

CLEAR.

7. US HAS HAD REGULAR CONSULTATIONS WITH CANADA AND AUSTRALIA, BOTH OF WHOM HAVE CONDUCTED EXTENSIVE STUDIES ON MT QUESTIONS IN PAST YEAR. BOTH SEEM KEEN ON PURSUING A CONVENTION IN IPG.

8. GROUP B WILL TAKE UP LIABILITY AND INSURANCE QUESTIONS EARLY DURING WEEK OF FEB 23-27. DALE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, MEETING DELEGATIONS, INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA01234
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760065-0606
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760231/aaaabaqd.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ullricre
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by oatisao>; APPROVED <26 AUG 2004 by ullricre>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 3RD UNCTAD IPG ON INTERMODAL TRANSPORT: SUMMARY OF FIRST WEEK
TAGS: EWWT, OCON, SZ, UNCTAD, IPG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006